



**BML MUNJAL  
UNIVERSITY™**  
A HERO GROUP INITIATIVE

**School of  
Liberal Studies**

# **MA PUBLIC POLICY**

**Policy Thinking in Practice**



## Why Public Policy Demands Professional Training Today

We live in a period of structural strain. Climate volatility, democratic pressure, technological disruption, widening inequality, and institutional distrust define our policy landscape.

Public policy now operates within regulatory complexity, contested public reasoning, and data-driven governance. Technical efficiency alone no longer secures legitimacy.

The MA in Public Policy at BML Munjal University responds to this moment by integrating analytical rigour, institutional immersion, democratic reasoning, and ethical judgement.



## How the Programme Trains Policy Thinkers

The MA in Public Policy at BMU is a practice-integrated programme engaging contemporary policy challenges through:

Theoretical grounding

Rigorous analytical training

Advanced policy design skills

Institutional exposure

Democratic and professional ethics

It is designed for those seeking serious engagement with policy design, analysis, and evaluation in India and beyond.

## Programme Structure

Across two years and four semesters, the curriculum develops analytical foundations and culminates in applied policy work.

### Common Core

Geo-politics, political economy, public finance, social policy, governance and regulation, research methods, statistics, and impact evaluation.

### Electives and Research Practice

Specialisation courses, the Policy Practice Exercise, Capstone project, and Dissertation.

Students graduate having analysed real policy problems and produced independent research and policy-facing work.

## Specialisation Pathways

Rural Development

Cities and Urban Governance

Climate Change & Environmental Policy

Public health, Biopolitics, and well-being

Each pathway combines conceptual study, case analysis, and supervised research engagement.

AI, Technology, and Society

Media, Culture, and Policy

Education, Youth, and Childhood

## Faculty Leadership and Institutional Anchoring

The programme is guided by:



### Chiranjib Sen

Distinguished Professor in Economics and Public Policy, School of Liberal Studies

Founding Chairperson, Centre for Public Policy at IIM, Bengaluru; Former Visiting Scholar, Syracuse University and Harvard Institute of International Development



### Arindam Banerjee

Dean and Professor, School of Liberal Studies

External Consultant to the IFAD and FAO; Former Adjunct Faculty, IIM, Kozhikode

Areas of Interest: Agrarian development, Food economy, Poverty



### Anup Dhar

Professor, School of Liberal Studies

Permanent Fellow at the Hans Kilian and Lotte Kohler Center (KKC), Institute of Social Theory and Social Psychology, Ruhr-University Bochum.

Areas of Interest: Mental Health, Philosophy and Development Practice



### Vaishali Kohli

Assistant Professor, School of Liberal Studies

Areas of Interest: Economics of Identity, Issues of Inequality and Stratification, Informal Economy, Applied Econometrics



### Pratap Bhanu Mehta

Distinguished Visiting Professor, School of Liberal Studies

Former VC of Ashoka University; Former President of the Centre for Policy Research; Former Visiting Faculty, New York University and Harvard University



### Tanweer Fazal

Professor, School of Liberal Studies

Humboldt Research Fellow; Former Research Consultant to Sachar Committee (2005-06) and ICAS: MP Fellow, University of Goettingen, Germany

Areas of Interest: Sociology of Nationalism(s), Citizenship and the Discourse of Rights and Entitlements



### Anandini Dar

Associate Professor, School of Liberal Studies

Director, Centre for Child and Youth Transitions, BMU; Co-founder and Convenor, Critical Childhood and Youth Studies

Areas of Interest: Childhood Studies, Education, and Feminist studies



### Pranav Trigunayat

Assistant Professor, School of Liberal Studies

Areas: Land Policy, Peri-urban Development and Macroeconomics

It draws upon interdisciplinary collaboration across Law, Management, and Engineering, enabling engagement with regulation, markets, and technology.

## Curriculum Architecture

The programme is organised around three integrated pillars:



### 1 Analytical Core

Economics, political economy, law, governance, regulatory analysis, public finance, social theory, inequality, and the study of power and institutions.



### 2 Policy Design and Evaluation

Policy instruments, monitoring and evaluation, regulatory analysis, case-based learning, and structured policy writing.



### 3 Research and Immersion

Credited field engagement leading into Capstone and Dissertation.

Students analyse public problems, design alternatives, and assess institutional feasibility.

## Centres and Institutional Platforms

### Centre for Public Policy and Governance (CPPG)

The programme is anchored by the Centre for Public Policy and Governance, which hosts policy dialogues, practitioner lectures, and research initiatives.

### Centre for Child and Youth Transitions (CCYT)

The Education, Youth and Childhood pathway is supported by the Centre for Childhood and Youth Transitions, addressing gaps in teaching, research, and policy engagement concerning childhood and youth.

### The Wider BMU Ecosystem

Students also benefit from:

- Atal Community Innovation Centre
- BMU Incubation and Start-up Platform
- BMU Studio
- Institute for Dialogue of Educators Action and Research (i-DEAR)
- Cross-school collaborations

These platforms extend policy engagement across state, market, and civil society contexts.



## Policy Practice Exercise

The Policy Practice Exercise (PPE) is a credited institutional immersion of minimum 120 hours.

Students engage with ministries, regulatory bodies, development agencies, rural institutions, civic bodies, and research centres aligned with their interests.

The PPE includes:



Institutional observation



Structured documentation



Faculty-guided analytical reflection

It ensures theory is tested within institutional realities.

### Capstone and Dissertation

Together, the Capstone and Dissertation form the research and practice spine of the programme.

The Capstone is practice-oriented and requires engagement with a live policy problem. The Dissertation may be research-based or practice-driven, depending on academic direction.

Students:



Identify emerging policy questions



Conduct empirical or field research



Develop analytical frameworks



Produce policy-facing outputs

**Outputs include** policy briefs, analytical papers, research reports, and implementation frameworks.

**Outcomes include** institutional literacy, analytical independence, evaluative competence, and ethical judgement.

## Career Pathways

The programme prepares students for:

Policy research and advisory roles

Governance and regulatory analysis

Development and social impact organisations

Corporate public policy functions

Doctoral study



Preparation includes mentored internships, research portfolio development, structured policy writing, and academic supervision.

### Policy Opportunity Ecosystem

A dedicated policy-specific opportunity cell anchors professional development.

Led by a Partnerships Lead - a senior policy practitioner with an established network across government, think tanks, and leading organisations - the cell builds institutional linkages, sources live projects, and facilitates early-career pathways.



Support Includes

Faculty and practitioner mentorships

Alumni and institutional networks

Structured profile development

Access to on- and off-campus opportunities

## Promoting Excellence with Scholarships

### Programme Fee

Rs. 6,00,000 for the full two-year programme (Accommodation charges additional)

Scholarships will be available for eligible candidates based on merit and institutional criteria.





## Admissions Process

Admission to the MA in Public Policy (MAPP) programme follows a structured three-stage process designed to assess academic preparedness, analytical ability, and motivation for policy engagement.

### Stage I: Application

- **Fill Application Form**

Final-year applicants may submit their CGPA up to the most recent semester/year.

The application form captures essential candidate information, including personal details and UG academic performance.

### Stage II: Examination

- **Undertake Entrance Exam**

All applicants are required to undertake the MAPP Entrance Examination.

Candidates entering through the Policy Assembly (winners) are exempt from this stage and proceed directly to interview.

### Stage III: Interview

- **Personal Interview**

Shortlisted candidates are invited for an online interview with a faculty panel.

The interaction assesses clarity of thought, motivation, and alignment with the programme's intent.

## Entrance Examination Structure

The MAPP Entrance Test consists of two components:

### MCQ Section

General Aptitude  
Public Policy Awareness:

1. This structure ensures evaluation across analytical reasoning, written articulation, and policy understanding.
2. The process is designed to identify candidates capable of rigorous policy thinking, independent analysis, and meaningful engagement with public questions.
3. Selected candidates will be called for interviews based on their scores in the MCQ and subjective sections.

### Subjective Section

Statement of Purpose:  
Policy Essay:

## Academic Environment

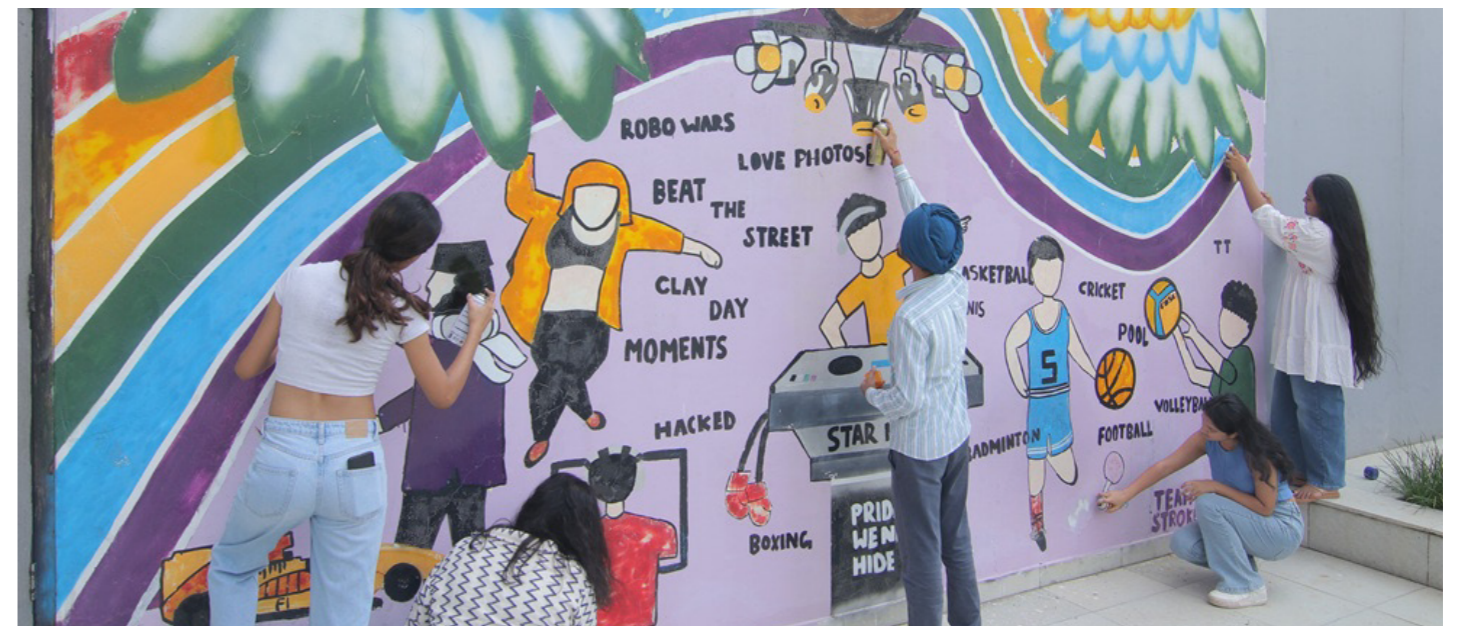
Faculty mentorship is central to the programme, guiding students through:

- Analytical training and policy frameworks
- Research design and field engagement
- Capstone and dissertation development

The academic environment is designed to support rigorous inquiry, interdisciplinary thinking, and sustained engagement with real policy challenges.

## Student Life and Intellectual Community

The programme is embedded within a vibrant student-led ecosystem that encourages dialogue, debate, and interdisciplinary engagement beyond the classroom.



- Literary, Quizzing and Debating Club (LIQUID)

- Speakeasy Club

- Strokes (Arts) Club

- Environment Club

- Finonomics Club

- Nazariya (film screening club)

- The Strategist and Entrepreneurship Club

- Mrityunjaya (The Theatre Society)



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# Policy in Action



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Public policy is exercised within institutions, under constraint, and in full view of consequence. It requires judgement as much as analysis, responsibility as much as expertise.

Anchored in the School of Liberal Studies, the MA in Public Policy programme prepares students to engage with public decisions with rigour, institutional understanding, and ethical seriousness.

Applications open for August 2026 intake.

